

GAME PREVIEW
IOWA Hawkeyes

HOMETOWN HEROES
GRAND Island

RED ZONE
JONES Stands Out

BLEEDING RED
NO Thanks

THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED



BURIED IN THE BIG HOUSE

MICHIGAN'S 45-17 WIN SENDS HUSKERS TO 12TH
STRAIGHT SEASON WITHOUT A CONFERENCE TITLE



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NOVEMBER 25, 2011
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2011 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME	TV/SCORE
SEPT. 3	CHATTANOOGA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30 P.M.	W, 40-7
SEPT. 10	FRESNO STATE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	6:00 P.M.	W, 42-29
SEPT. 17	WASHINGTON	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30 P.M.	W, 51-38
SEPT. 24	@ WYOMING	LARAMIE, WYO.	6:30 P.M.	W, 38-14
OCT. 1	@ WISCONSIN	MADISON, WIS.	7:00 P.M.	L, 17-48
OCT. 8	OHIO STATE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	7:00 P.M.	W, 34-27
OCT. 22	@ MINNESOTA	MINNEAPOLIS	2:30 P.M.	W, 41-14
OCT. 29	MICHIGAN STATE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11:00 A.M.	W, 24-3
NOV. 5	NORTHWESTERN	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30 P.M.	L, 25-28
NOV. 12	@ PENN STATE	UNIVERSITY PARK, PA.	11:00 A.M.	W, 17-14
NOV. 19	@ MICHIGAN	ANN ARBOR, MICH.	11:00 A.M.	L, 17-45
NOV. 25	IOWA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11 A.M.	ABC



ON THE COVER

Receiver Quincy Enunwa puts his hands to his face after missing a reception against Michigan. The Huskers 45-17 loss to Michigan eliminated Nebraska from contention for the Legends Division title and a trip to Indianapolis to play for in Big Ten conference championship game.

PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN



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NEXT ISSUE

Volume 31, Issue 19, the Iowa recap and bowl preview will be mailed Monday, Nov. 28. Check for updates at hussersillustrated.com.

ANOTHER SEASON WITHOUT A TITLE

Cornhuskers' dismantled in Ann Arbor, will watch Big Ten title game from home

TO CALL NEBRASKA'S performance at Michigan a disappointment would be like calling the Big House a large stadium. Both would be dramatic understatements.

The Big House and its 113,718 guests witnessed a meltdown of epic proportions by the Huskers Saturday.

The largest crowd to ever see a Nebraska football game watched a Husker offense that couldn't stay on the field, a defense that couldn't get off the field and the special teams unit couldn't get out of its own way.

Nebraska's second half drive chart says it all. Eight drives: three ended on fumbles, two on punts, two on downs, with one resulting in a touchdown.

Head coach Bo Pelini said afterwards, "We can't play that way on the road and expect to win a football game. The penalties, the turnovers, all the things that we preach and what we were doing well we weren't doing today. There's your result."

The result, besides the 45-17 loss, is Nebraska kissing its chances goodbye for a BCS bowl berth, and more importantly a trip to Indianapolis for the inaugural Big Ten championship game.

Picked by most to win the Legends Division, the Cornhuskers will instead be watching the title game from home on Dec. 2, meaning it will be the 12th straight year the Huskers finish without a conference championship.

Pelini is responsible for the last four years of that drought. And while most



would agree the program has improved under his direction, one question looms large... How much better is it?

Considering Pelini is the highest paid coach in Nebraska history, the absence of a conference crown is his biggest shortcoming. But Nebraska's 9-6 record in its last 15 games is downright alarming. The defense has been unable to replace its NFL-caliber talent from the past two seasons and continues to move backwards. Injuries have been a factor for the Blackshirts, but this defense was soft before it was banged up.

And there is a growing contingent arguing that the talent on this year's team doesn't measure up to the talent that was on the roster four years ago.

It's hard to disagree.

Nebraska's goals for the season are no longer in tact. No BCS bowl, no Legends Division championship, no Big Ten championship.

Instead of a trip to one of the many great bowls the Big Ten has to offer, Nebraska could instead be headed to its worst bowl game during Pelini's tenure. Nebraska could be looking at a trip to the Insight Bowl, where a matchup against a former Big 12 foe would be waiting.

Either way, after four years under Pelini there appears to be more questions than answers. **N**

Send me your comments or story ideas to aaron@huskersillustrated.com.





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SENIOR CLASS

BY MIKE BABCOCK

Austin Cassidy hasn't forgotten the first game in which he played at Nebraska. He was a redshirted freshman in 2008 and got in late in the third game against New Mexico State, a 38-7 victory.

"We must have been beating them pretty good if they (the coaches) wanted to put me in," he said. "That's when I recorded my first tackle. I don't think I'll ever forget that."

He was playing safety, and "I just came up and made the play," said Cassidy.

"I don't think the guy ever saw me. It was a running play, and it was just down on the 20-yard line, south side. The guy had a handoff or something, and I just came up and made the tackle. I remember (thinking), 'Oh, my gosh, I can't believe that just happened.'

"It was probably late in the fourth quarter. I think I played maybe two or three series on defense. But to me that was like being out there in the Super Bowl at that time. So it was pretty cool."

When he was sent into the game, he wasn't concerned about forgetting his assignment. "The one thing I didn't want to do was give up a touchdown," Cassidy said.

The Aggies threw a long pass with a play-fake, and "I ended up biting on the run," he said. "They almost scored a touchdown. But they didn't, thank goodness. I think I was more worried about giving up a touchdown than anything else. I just wanted to show the coaches I could play in a game situation."

Cassidy played in every game as a sophomore, primarily on special teams. He became a starter at safety midway through his junior season, and he's been a starter ever since.

2011 SENIOR CLASS

%Anthony Blue, CB	Cedar Hill, Texas
*#Mike Caputo, C	Omaha, Neb.
*#Austin Cassidy, S	Lincoln, Neb.
Jared Crick, DT	Cozad, Neb.
*Jon Damkroger, P	Firth, Neb.
Lavonte David, LB	Miami, Fla.
Alfonzo Dennard, CB	Rochelle, Ga.
*Jim Ebke, LB	Lincoln, Neb.
Curenski Gilleylen, IB	Leander, Texas
"Yoshi" Hardrick, OT	Batesville, Miss.
*#Austin Jones, IB	Aurora, Colo.
Marcel Jones, OT	Phoenix, Ariz.
Brandon Kinnie, WR	Kansas City, Mo.
*#Tyler Legate, FB	Neligh, Neb.
*Luke Lingenfelter, OL	Plainview, Neb.
*Jay Martin, TE	Waverly, Neb.
*Mathew May, LB	Imperial, Neb.
Marcus Mendoza, CB	Houston, Texas
Terrence Moore, DT	New Orleans, La.
*Kevin Thomsen, TE	Elkhorn, Neb.
*#Lance Thorell, DB	Loomis, Neb.
*Walked on #Earned scholarship % Career-ending injury	

HI'S TOP5

FIVE FROM IOWA



Trev Alberts has told the story about Tom Osborne's recruiting visit to his home. It was the first time head coach and recruit had met, and it was "really embarrassing," Alberts has said.

"Once he got in the house, my mom was lining us up for pictures. The funny thing was, we got the pictures back – and back in those days, I was 200 pounds – I mean, Tom Osborne was bigger than me. It was really funny. He was taller. He was bigger. 'Coach is bigger than you, Trev.' "

The 6-foot-4 Alberts grew to 240 pounds and changed the way Nebraska played defense. He played a primary role in the Huskers changing to the 4-3 base alignment that was so important in Osborne's teams winning three national championships in his final four seasons.

Alberts is among many outstanding players Nebraska has recruited from Iowa. Here are five:

- 1 TREV ALBERTS, OLB (1990-91-92-93-94)**
CEDAR FALLS
- 2 ROGER CRAIG, IB (1980-81-82)**
DAVENPORT
- 3 LAVERNE ALLERS, OG (1964-65-66)**
DAVENPORT
- 4 KYLE VANDEN BOSCH, RE (1997-98-99-00)**
LARCHWOOD
- 5 JAMIE WILLIAMS, TE (1979-80-81-82)**
DAVENPORT



TALL ORDER

STANLEY JEAN-BAPTISTE

isn't a typical cornerback, not at 6-foot-3 and 220 pounds. "If you look at most of the average NFL cornerbacks, they're all 5-11, 6-foot," said secondary coach **COREY RAYMOND**. "I look at corners, is he my height to taller than me? It's unique to have a guy who is 6-3. You don't want to go too high. You want to make sure he's a multi-sport guy, a guy who is athletic and can run."

Jean-Baptiste is a multi-position guy, having begun his Husker career as a wide receiver.

RESPECTING THE GAME

BO PELINI has been coaching long enough to understand he has to move on after losses. That

doesn't mean he can dismiss them easily, however. "I promise you, this loss has worn on me, and anytime we lose," he said on the Monday following the Huskers' 28-25 loss against Northwestern.

"The way I'm wired, I take it really hard. But you have to move on and get past it. There's no sense crying about it. You look at it, learn and move on. You have to. That's what I'm paid to do. I won't sit here and cry about it. Believe me, it wears in my gut that we lost that game. Do I know that can happen? Yeah, you can lose every week. When you're coaching as long as I have, you have to have respect for the game. Anybody can beat you on any day, no question about it. You have to respect that."

PROCESS, STAYING THE COURSE

The numbers support it, the victories. Nebraska's program is moving in the right direction. "I feel good about our progress," coach **BO PELINI** said recently. "I do believe in the process and what we have accomplished and where we're heading. I'm not always a results-oriented guy. A lot of people are. I think there's a lot of other things that go into it. You have to do the best you can and keep getting better, and that's what I see. Who's to say what will happen as this season ends?"

NO TWITTER

In late July, teammates (including **JARED CRICK** and **LAVONTE DAVID**) persuaded **REX BURKHEAD** to open a Twitter account. He opened it on the day he traveled to Chicago for Big Ten Media Days and almost immediately reached 3,000 followers. Also almost immediately, he cancelled the account.

"I guess it was like a week into (fall) camp," said Burkhead. "I never got on it and felt like I didn't have time to keep up with it. Honestly, just one day I decided to delete it."

Teammates "always tell me to get back on it, but I'm like, 'I don't have time,'" he said.

SIDELINES

FOOTBALL'S FOOTBALL

Some have suggested Big Ten teams play a more physical brand of football than the Big 12 plays. But senior safety **AUSTIN CASSIDY** isn't among them. Plus, the preparation isn't any different than a year ago. "To me as a player we still just have a week to get ready for everyone, anyway," he said. "I think in the Big 12 you knew what to expect more. But it wouldn't be ridiculous for them to change their entire offense to see our defense when we played them. And that happened at least a couple of times."

"Football is football. It's physical no matter where you play it."

"As far as the players are concerned, we just do what we can in a week to get ready for the team, and the coaches do their best to get us ready, get as much knowledge from their heads into our heads. I don't think it's any more or less challenging than playing in another league."

FULL OF ENERGY

RON BROWN is in his mid-50s. And he's been coaching a long time. But the Husker running backs coach hasn't lost his enthusiasm or his passion for what he does.

"His voice is always high when he's trying to explain something. When we get in trouble, his voice is always high, yelling, and when we do something good, his voice is always high," said freshman running back **AARON GREEN**. "So Coach Brown is very, very intense."

He's also energetic and draws along those in his charge. "Sometimes when we're in a slump, 'Man, I really don't want to be here,' he's consistently loud and seems to always be excited, so 'Man, it's another day; here we go,' " Green said. "That's Coach Brown for you."

Brandon Kinnie on Marcel Jones

YOU HEARD IT

"You just laugh every time from his voice... just a big teddy bear, man, big teddy bear, big fun guy to be around, always joking. But when he gets mad, he's mad. And that's a big dude to be mad. He's one of them guys like, it takes a lot to get him mad, but when you get him mad, I would move. I wouldn't want to be in the way. I would not want to be in the way."



KEVIN KUGLER

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HAT TRICK (HOT HOCKEY)

Junior place-kicker and punter **BRETT MAHER** was named the Big Ten's Co-Special Teams Player of the Week for his performance in the Huskers' 17-14 victory against Penn State. In addition to kicking a 41-yard field goal, Maher averaged 45.0 yards on eight punts, including five inside the Nittany Lions' 20-yard line. His longest, a 61-yarder, was downed at the Penn State 11-yard line with 3:52 remaining.

Maher, a semi-finalist for

the Lou Groza Award, was recognized as a Big Ten Special Teams Player of the Week after victories against Tennessee-Chattanooga and Ohio State.

Through the first 10 games, he was averaging 45.37 yards per punt to rank seventh nationally and he ranked ninth nationally in field goal percentage, making 16 of 19 (.842).

All three of his misses were from 50 yards or longer.

MENTAL FATIGUE

Freshman wide receiver

JAMAL TURNER is honest about the reason for his lack of playing time as the season has gone on. The demands in college are dramatically different than those in high school.

"It's a mind thing," Turner said the week before the Penn State game. "My body feels wonderful. I feel good, fresh legs. I feel (like) it's the beginning of the season. But the mind thing, it really wears on your mind. I'm telling myself I'm tired, the season should be over, and we've still got three games left. So I'm trying to pick it up, and I'm practicing harder so I can get on the field more.

"I'm just going to go from here, see how things work out."

Turner admitted he hadn't been going as hard in practice as he should have been. He knew what he was sup-

posed to be doing, he said.

That wasn't the problem.

Rather, "I take a lot of plays off, just relaxing and stuff like that," said Turner.

It showed in video from practice and games.

"A few weeks ago, I was talking to Coach 'Fish' (**RICH FISHER**), and he was like, 'You're not practicing hard.' And I'm like, 'Coach, I am, I am.' And he showed me the film, and I'm like not even close to the speed... I know how fast I am, and it was like I was jogging," Turner said. "It kind of opened my eyes, and it showed me, 'Hey, I need to work a little harder' and stuff like that."



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Lott Trophy

LAVONTE DAVID is among eight semifinalists for the Lott Trophy, presented to college football's defensive player of the year. The senior from Miami by way of Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College is already the leading tackler in Husker history among two-year players.

Beyond the statistics, however, David has stepped up and made big plays.

In the final minutes at Penn State, for example, when the Nittany Lions needed only a field goal to tie the score, David made tackles on three consecutive downs: second-and-2 at the Penn State 37, 1 yard; third-and-1 at the 37, no gain; and fourth-and-1 at the 37, no gain.

And, of course, his forcing and recovering a fumble by Ohio State quarterback Braxton Miller in the third quarter was the turnaround moment in the victory against the Buckeyes.

"It was just (a) go-for-it type deal," David said later. "He had his back turned and the ball was out. My eyes got big, so I had to go for it. It was the opportunity of a lifetime, so I had to take it. The ball was just hanging right out here in his arm, and I just crept up on him and snatched it away."

"Any guy (who) would have passed up on that, I mean, it would have been ridiculous."

**"EARTHQUAKE"
IN LOOMIS**

Senior **LANCE THORELL**, who walked on after playing eight-man football at Loomis, Neb., High School, was put on scholarship this season and then was among those who earned Blackshirts.

"This will be huge in Loomis," he said after getting the Blackshirt. "Like someone said – I think one of my family members said – I think there was an earthquake in Loomis this week when everything was going down. It's a great feeling for me, and I get a lot of support from back home."

"I can't be more thankful for all the support they've given me."

Earning a Blackshirt "means the world to be part of this tradition," Thorell said.

NO THANKS

BLEEDING BY TIM SIEDELL RED

Uh, yeah. No thanks. I have no interest in a new rivalry.

A rivalry implies evenly matched teams. Traditionally competitive games over an extended period of time. Games involving high stakes. Memorable games. Which, for me, means an increasingly nervous stomach in the days leading up to kickoff. And the distinct possibility of raking leaves all day Sunday out of sheer frustration. I hate raking leaves.

No thanks. I don't want a rivalry. Especially one on Thanksgiving weekend.

Thanksgiving is stressful enough with all the drinking and fistfights and frozen-turkey-throwing competitions and Uncle Bob and his smelly leg that he refuses to get amputated. Okay, I exaggerate. But still. Holidays are stressful enough without the added worry of a must-win game each year.

The Big Ten wants this to be a rivalry game. And, strangely enough, so do many people in the states of Iowa and Nebraska. I get it, I guess. There's more of a geographic connection, population-wise, between Nebraska and Iowa than Nebraska and Colorado, the last team a conference told us to have a rivalry with. On paper, it makes sense.

But, who cares? Like Tom Osborne has said, a rivalry

develops. A rivalry is earned over time.

So be careful what you wish for, Husker fans.

Nebraska earned a rivalry with a superior Oklahoma program in 1959. That's when Nebraska broke the Sooners' 74-game conference unbeaten streak in one of the biggest upsets in Husker history. And through the sixties, seventies, eighties, and beyond the teams fought back and forth for confer-

ence and national dominance. Often in front of huge national audiences.

The series became one of the biggest rivalries in college football because we took turns ripping each other's hearts out and treating it like a side dish to leftover Thanksgiving turkey sandwiches. I'm guessing Oklahoma would have just preferred to run that conference unbeaten streak to 354 games or so.

The Nebraska and Iowa football teams may not be that far apart right now, but the programs are separated by a lot more than the Missouri River. Since 1970, Nebraska has won as many national championships as Iowa has won conference championships. Two great schools, sure. Proud heritages, obviously. But only one has a genuine blue-blood pedigree. Face it, Nebraska and Iowa aren't even in the same league.

Except, now we are. Same division, even. And this fake, manufactured rivalry created in a boardroom in Chicago or Indianapolis is going to play for a fake, manufactured trophy with an embarrassingly fake, manufactured "Heroes Game" title attached to it. And there's going to be a second Corn Bowl Trophy, as well, because, well, imagination is in short supply. I just pray this rivalry never develops beyond trite symbolism. Let's hope that awful Corn Bowl Trophy becomes the answer to a trivia question instead of something we actually care about.

Because if we do care, heaven help us, it'll mean this series has become a real rivalry. And Iowa will have earned it the only way it can: with wins on the field. Dear lord, let's not let that happen. That would be awful for the entire state of Nebraska.

Have you noticed how many Hawkeye fans are sprinkled throughout this state? Especially around Omaha? For every one Iowa fan you know about, there are at least five others just biding their time. Like a sleeper cell, they're patiently waiting for the chance to wag their fingers and cluck their tongues and fly their

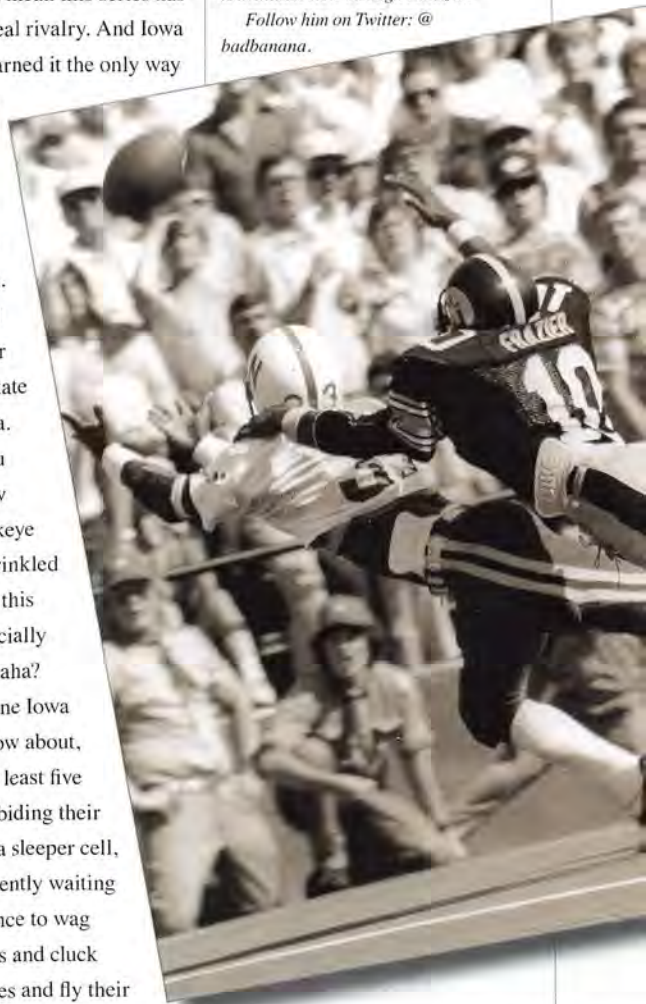
black and yellow flags and do the Hawkeye chicken dance or whatever it is they do on those increasingly rare occasions when they manage to beat their natural rival, Iowa State. Things could get unbearable around here real quick.

So, let's take care of business, Huskers. Let's nip this rivalry in the bud. Then cut the stem off to the ground. Then pull out the roots. And pour gasoline into the soil so nothing can grow there, ever.

Thank you, but I don't want a rivalry.

"Tim Siedell is a writer and humorist whose first book, 'Marching Bands Are Just Homeless Orchestras' is available now through Amazon.

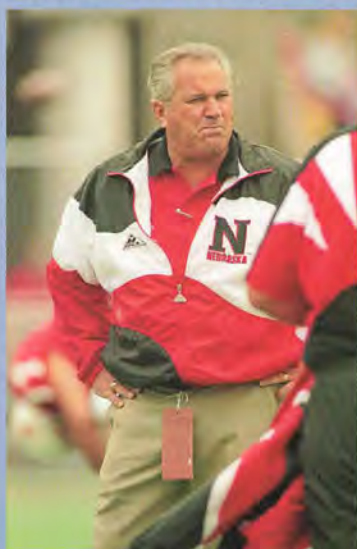
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GROWING UP IN GRAND ISLAND, KASH KALKOWSKI PLAYED

T-ball like most 5-year-olds. Kalkowski wasn't the typical 5-year-old T-ball player, though.

He was much better. Kalkowski was too good, in fact. When he became too good, his parents placed him on a team for 7-year olds. That didn't last long.

"One of the other team's parents found out my age, and they went and talked to the board," Kalkowski said. "I got kicked off the 7-year-old team and went back to T-ball."

Kalkowski definitely didn't need a tee to hit the ball. As a senior, he led Grand Island High to its first Class A state title. Kalkowski hit .460 with 32 RBIs and 27 stolen bases at shortstop. The do-it-all Kalkowski also compiled a 6-1 record on the mound, striking out 65 in 55.2 innings.

Kalkowski pitched in three straight games to end his senior year. He started against Creighton Prep in the first round. After rain delayed games, he started against Millard North, then finished his career with a save in the state final against Millard West.

"It was pretty amazing," the Nebraska junior said. "The atmosphere of coming here and playing where I play now, it was just a dream."

Tampa Bay drafted Kalkowski as a pitcher in the 49th round of the 2008 MLB draft, but he

chose to get more experience in the same stadium he led the Islanders to the state title.

"My parents wanted me to get an education and I needed more experience," he said. "After being here for state, it felt like home playing at Haymarket when I got here."

His teammates are glad he did. Each year, Kalkowski takes teammates back to Grand Island for a homemade meal. And when out-of-state players fly in to Grand Island, there's always a meal.

"My mom cooks us fried chicken," Kalkowski said. "There are a lot of guys from Phoenix and Texas who fly into Grand Island, so they just stay at my place and my mom cooks."

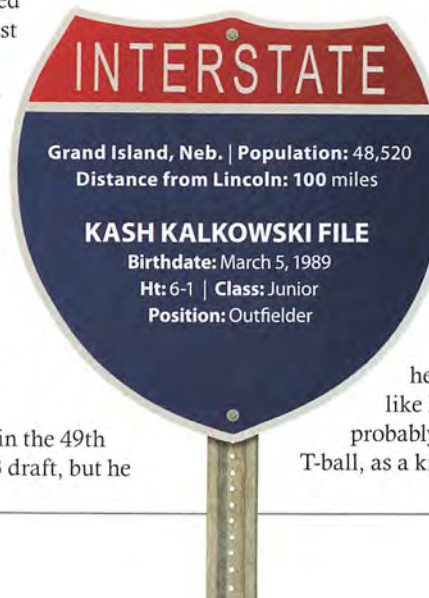
When Kalkowski isn't home eating his mom's fried chicken, he's watching baseball movies to avoid homework.

"Recently I just watched 'The Sandlot' when I was supposed to be studying the other night," he said. "That's a great movie. The new 'Money Ball' was good. 'The Rookie' is always a good choice for baseball movies, too."

Kalkowski didn't use movies to develop his swing, though. He turned to Tampa Bay's Evan Longoria. "As a kid, I idolized Derek Jeter. For my swing, though, I mimic Evan Longoria," he said. Longoria, like Kalkowski, was

probably too good for T-ball, as a kid, too.

by Ryne Stefankiewicz



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Iowa Hawkeyes

First Heroes Game meeting to take place at Memorial Stadium against Nebraska | TERRY DOUGLASS

When Nebraska joined the Big Ten Conference last summer, officials from both schools determined that they wanted the annual border battle between the Cornhuskers and Iowa to become a trophy game with additional significance.

To that end, Nebraska and Iowa will square off in the first Heroes Game at 11 a.m. on Friday in Memorial Stadium at Lincoln.

"Not only is it a trophy

game, but we wanted it to have meaning beyond that," Iowa athletics director Gary Barta said when the Heroes Game was unveiled in late July at Big Ten Media Days. "I think the heroes' concept has a great feel to it."

One citizen of both Iowa and Nebraska will be recognized for an extraordinary act prior to each year's contest. Friends, neighbors or co-workers can nominate individuals for the

honor and the winners will be recognized on game day and have their name and hometown inscribed on the Heroes Game Trophy.

Nebraska and Iowa will be meeting for the first time since 2000 when the Huskers won 42-13 in Lincoln. NU leads the all-time series 26-12-3 with the Hawkeyes last winning in 1981 by a 10-7 score at Iowa City.



Marvin McNutt is averaging 115 yards receiving per game in 2011, recording eight 100-yard receiving games through Iowa's first 10 games.



Kirk Ferentz

Resume: Kirk Ferentz is in his 13th season as Iowa's head coach, posting a 95-65

record heading into last Saturday's game at Purdue. Prior to that, Ferentz was an offensive line coach for the NFL's Baltimore Ravens (1996-98) and Cleveland Browns (1993-95) as well as the head coach at Maine (1990-92).

KNOW YOUR FOE

James Vandenberg, QB, 6-3, 212, Jr.



Vandenberg completed 60 percent of his pass attempts for 2,351 yards and 20 TDs with just five interceptions through his first 10 games. He had 399 passing yards and three TDs in a 31-27 win against Pittsburgh.

Marcus Coker, RB, 6-1, 230, So.



In his first 10 games of the 2011 season, Coker had 1,158 yards rushing, averaging 5 yards per carry, with 13 TDs and had also caught 18 passes for 118 yards. He had 252 yards rushing in a 22-21 loss at Minnesota.

Marvin McNutt, WR, 6-4, 215, Sr.



McNutt has had a productive senior season with 65 catches for 1,089 yards and 10 TDs heading into last Saturday's Purdue game. The former quarterback is the school's all-time leader in receiving TDs (26).

2011 SCHEDULE

9/3	Tennessee Tech W, 34-7
9/10	at Iowa St. L, 44-41 (OT)
9/17	Pittsburgh W, 31-27
9/24	Louisiana-Monroe W, 45-17
10/8	at Penn St. L, 13-3
10/15	Northwestern W, 41-31
10/22	Indiana W, 45-24
10/29	at Minnesota L, 22-21
11/5	Michigan W, 24-16
11/12	Michigan St. W, 37-21
11/19	at Purdue
11/25	at Nebraska

PHOTO COURTESY IOWA MEDIA RELATIONS

THEBIGTENBEAT

Paterno's name removed from trophy

Big Ten championship game trophy renamed to honor Stagg only | TERRY DOUGLASS

Fallout from the recent Penn State scandal and the subsequent firing of long-time Nittany head coach Joe Paterno reached the Big Ten officials as the league has removed Paterno's name from the conference's football championship trophy.

Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany said it would be "inappropriate" to keep Paterno's name on the trophy that will be awarded Dec. 3 after the first Big Ten title game. Paterno was fired by Penn State on Nov. 9, and investigations have started looking into allegations of child sex-abuse involving former Nittany Lions' defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky.

Originally, the Big Ten

title game trophy had been named the Stagg-Paterno Championship Trophy, but will now be called the Stagg Championship Trophy. Amos Alonzo Stagg won 319 games in 57 years, which is the most at the University of Chicago, while Paterno's 409 wins lead all major-college coaches.

An image of the Stagg-Paterno Championship Trophy will still appear on the tickets for the championship game. Big Ten spokesman Scott Chipman told the Associated Press that many of the tickets have already been shipped and the conference will not reprint the remaining tickets.



IN THE RUNNING

Several players from the Big Ten Conference are still alive as semifinalists and finalists for national honors:

Defensively, Nebraska's Lavonte David is a semifinalist for the Bednarik, Butkus and Lott Trophy honors and is joined on the Bednarik Award list by Illinois' Whitney Mercilus, Michigan State's Jerel Worthly and Penn State's Devon Still. Iowa's Tyler Nielsen and Wisconsin's Mike Taylor are Butkus Award semifinalists, while John Simon is a Lott Trophy semifinalist.

Offensively, Wisconsin's Russell Wilson is a semifinalist for the Maxwell and Davey O'Brien Awards and is joined on the Davey O'Brien list by Illinois' Nathan Scheelhaase, Michigan's Denard Robinson and Michigan State's Kirk Cousins. Nebraska's Rex Burkhead and Wisconsin's Montee Ball are semifinalists for the Doak Walker Award, while Iowa's Mike Meyer, Nebraska's Brett Maher and Penn State's Anthony Fera are semifinalists for the Groza Award.

BANGED-UP BADGER

Wisconsin will likely be without starting center Peter Konz, who suffered a dislocated ankle in the Badgers' 42-13 victory at Minnesota on Nov. 12, and is expected to miss 2-4 weeks.

Badgers head coach Bret Bielema said he's hopeful Konz will return ahead of schedule.

"He came out of it about as good as you could possibly hope," Bielema said of Konz. "My guess is that Pete will be back faster than most people think."

BIG TEN ROUNDUP

► With his three-touchdown performance on Nov. 12, Wisconsin running back Montee Ball achieved a Big Ten Conference single-season record for total TDs in a season with 27. Ball surpassed the previous single-season mark of 26 TDs set by Ohio State's Pete Johnson (1975), Indiana's Anthony Johnson (1988) and Penn State's Ki-Jana Carter (1994).

► Sarah Thomas became the first woman to officiate in a Big Ten Conference stadium during the Northwestern-Rice game at Evanston, Ill., on Nov. 12. Thomas, who is an official for Conference USA, served as the line judge. In 2007, Thomas became the first woman to work as an official in a major-college football game when Jacksonville State played against Memphis.

► As the first Big Ten Conference divisional races head down the stretch run of the season, it's important to remember that the league has instituted a new tiebreaker to determine which teams will represent their respective divisions in the Big Ten championship game. After head-to-head matchups, the next tiebreaker is the teams' record within the division, which places greater emphasis on winning divisional games.

Maher's confidence lends to superb results

BY MICHAEL BRUNTZ

Nebraska punter Brett Maher stood inside his own 20-yard line late in the fourth quarter against Penn State awaiting the snap.

The Huskers were clinging to a three-point lead and an emotional Penn State team had the momentum and 100,000-plus in Beaver Stadium behind them.

Maher had already pinned Penn State inside its own 20-yard line four times, but with the pressure on, the junior from Kearney, Neb., booted his best kick of the day, a 61-yarder that was downed at Penn State's 11-yard line.

The kick flipped the field and meant that Penn State would have to go nearly 60 yards before even thinking about kicking a field goal to tie the game. For a Nittany Lion offense that lacked big-play potential, Maher's kick was a game-changer. It's also the kind of performance Maher has turned in game-after-game in his first season as Nebraska's starting kicker and punter.

"There's just a lot of emotion, a lot of adrenaline, the more you can use that to your advantage, it can really do some amazing things for you," Maher said of the punt. "I try to use that to my advantage and get a little bit behind it."

Maybe more impressive than Maher's performance is that he has managed to exceed expectations that many had for the kicking game this season. Maher and freshman Mauro Bondi battled through fall camp to replace Alex Henery, who graduated as the most accurate kicker in NCAA history.

Coaches say the battle between Maher and Bondi was close, but Maher gave the Huskers the best chance to be successful.

The quietly confident Maher possesses many of the qualities you look for in a kicker. He coolly nailed a 41-yard field goal toward the Penn State student section that put Nebraska ahead in the second quarter. That shouldn't have come as a surprise, though. Going into the Penn State game, Maher had missed just three field goals, all of which were 50 yards or longer. For his work, he's earned three Big Ten special teams player of the week honors this season.

"It was something I'd hoped for and it was a goal of mine, but I'm pretty tickled by the success I've had this year," Maher said. "I think it's a really cool deal and



Being a successful place-kicker takes the right mix of calm and detachment from the stress of the moment.

definitely an honor. At the same time, if I go and have a bad week next week, that doesn't mean as much for what I've done."

Maher said he started getting serious about kicking as a fifth-grader when former Husker and NFL standout Kris Brown student taught in Waverly where Maher's father was principal.

The two have remained close through the years, with Brown texting congratulations to Maher after he made his debut earlier this season.

Last season, Maher battled with Henery for the punting job and while he performed well, some have said they've been surprised by just how well Maher has performed.

"We watched him every day," special teams' coordinator John Papuchis said. "If you had asked me that question a year ago, the answer would be yes. Knowing what we had coming into the year, when you look at his statistical success in practice, he has the unique ability to carry over from practice to games."

Being a successful place-kicker takes the right mix of calm and detachment from the stress of the moment.

Head coach Bo Pelini said he's seeing Maher kick with increased confidence as the season progresses.

"He has always been a confident guy," Pelini said. "You know how it is. There is a belief in what I can do, and the next level of 'I've done this before.' Not saying he wasn't confident in the first place, but when you've already done it, it becomes that much easier. You can believe in yourself, but when you've been in those situations, that is a whole other level we are talking about." **N**

Read daily Husker reports from Michael Bruntz at HuskersIllustrated.com. Follow him on Twitter @michaelbruntz.



QB, 6-1, 200, R-FR
BRADENTON, FLA.

FIVE QUESTIONS

Brion Carnes

Redshirt Freshman Taking Good Advice from Cousin

Nebraska redshirted freshman quarterback Brion Carnes wears No. 15 and hails from Bradenton, Fla.

Those are just two things Carnes has in common with former Husker All-American quarterback Tommie Frazier.

They're also cousins. Only, Carnes didn't know that until he was in high school.

"His brother, Rod, was coaching me in high school, and that's when I found out he was my cousin, my freshman year, and then I didn't get to meet Tommie

until my sophomore year," Carnes said.

"After that, we kind of had a close bond and we started talking

lack of playing time as a back-up.

He was like, 'You never know when your opportunity is going to come.'

He said just to stay focused, and when my time comes, to make the best of it," Carnes said. "He tells me all the time, just act like you're back at home playing field ball with your friends and everything. Just go out there and have fun."

Carnes said he wears No. 15 to honor his cousin, and that the two also wore the same number as high school players – No. 10.

and catching up and everything."

Carnes continues to stay in close contact with Frazier, who advises Carnes to keep pushing and to keep his head up despite



1

HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED:

What is your favorite Tommie Frazier highlight?

CARNES: I mean, there's a whole bunch, but I guess my favorite highlight would have to be the run (against Florida), the famous run.



2

HI: What was your experience like helping with the National Special Olympics in Lincoln?

CARNES: It was amazing...just to see how passionate, that even though they're not able to do what we do, they're still able to come out and compete and have fun with it.

3

HI: What did you do in track in high school?

CARNES: I ran the 200 and the 4-by-100 but I also threw the discus. My junior year, my first year ever throwing the discus, I went to state. I didn't even start out the season throwing, but we had two throwers go down.

4

HI: How far could you throw?

CARNES: My first time throwing was in practice and I threw about 110 just standing and throwing it. Never had any technique. I just threw it. My farthest ever was close to 140. It was fun.

5

HI: What sport have you never done but would like to try?

CARNES: Hockey. Looks like it would be fun. Just learning to ice skate – that would be the hardest part.

by Terry Douglass

TURNING POINT



PHOTOS BY AARON BABCOCK (LEFT) AND SCOTT BRUHN (RIGHT)

NOT SO SPECIAL

THE IMPORTANCE OF special teams play was all too apparent for Nebraska during its 45-17 loss at Michigan.

Trailing just 17-10 at the intermission, the Cornhuskers were set to receive the opening kickoff of the second half with an opportunity to tie the score. Instead, Nebraska's Kenny Bell fumbled the kickoff return, Michigan recovered and eventually converted the miscue into a 1-yard Denard Robinson touchdown run, giving the Wolverines a 24-10 lead.

As it turned out, Bell's fumble was just the beginning of Nebraska's special-teams meltdown before a crowd of 113,718 at Michigan Stadium. After that:

>>Nebraska punter Brett Maher mishandled a snap, leading to a blocked punt and giving Michigan possession at midfield.

>>The Wolverines later used a successful field-goal fake to pick up a first down at Nebraska's 1-yard line on their way to a TD and a 31-10 lead with 5:03 to play in the third quarter.

>>After cutting the Michigan lead to 31-17, Nebraska's Wil Richards was penalized for roughing the punter early in the fourth quarter. With new life, the Wolverines drove 86 yards for a

TD and a 38-17 lead with 10:14 remaining.

"You can't play that way on the road and win a football game," Nebraska coach Bo Pelini said. "You talk about the penalties, the turnovers — all the things that we preach. All the things that we've been doing well, we didn't do well today."

Nebraska wound up losing a second special-teams turnover as Tim Marlowe fumbled a fourth-quarter kickoff return. Although the Wolverines didn't get points from Marlowe's mistake, Huskers' quarterback Taylor Martinez said it was frustrating for the offense to have to go back to the sideline.

"It's a huge impact just because your offense thinks it's going onto the field and your defense thinks it's getting a break and then the defense ended up going back out there," Martinez said.

Later, Martinez coughed up Nebraska's third lost fumble after being sacked. Michigan converted the Martinez fumble into six points on the very next play as Fitzgerald Toussaint broke free for a 31-yard TD run.

"It's huge," Pelini said of Nebraska's turnovers. "You're just talking about giving away possessions and giving them short fields." **N**





GameNotes



PHOTO BY AARON BABCOCK

Nebraska's quest to capture a Big Ten Conference title and remain in the hunt for a BCS bowl bid came to a sudden halt at the hands of Michigan in The Big House.

The Cornhuskers committed three turnovers and made several other crucial mistakes during a 45-17 loss to the Wolverines in front a Michigan Stadium crowd of 113,718. The combination of NU's loss and Michigan State's victory over Indiana allowed the Spartans to clinch a spot in the first Big Ten championship game on Dec. 3 in Indianapolis as the Legends Division champion.

Now, Nebraska (8-3, 4-3 Big Ten) is reduced to trying to strengthen its bowl resume and work toward a third consecutive 10-win season. The Huskers close out the regular season at home on Friday against Iowa.

"It's very disappointing because that winning the Big Ten our goal at the beginning of the season," Nebraska wide

receiver **TIM MARLOWE** said. "We can't have our heads down because there's still a lot out there for us and we're just hoping to end the year well."

PLAYING KEEP-AWAY

Even when Nebraska did have possession of the football, the Cornhuskers weren't able to hold onto it for long against Michigan.

Facing a much-improved Wolverines' defensive unit, Nebraska was limited to its lowest time of possession figure (18:47) since at least 1983. Michigan ran 80 offensive plays compared to 54 for the Huskers.

"I thought we played awful on offense," Nebraska coach **BO PELINI** said. "We didn't execute. We took ourselves out of drives. It was not a good day for us on offense."

Nebraska was held to a season-low 260 total yards. The Huskers' possession time was hampered by three lost fumbles — two on special teams — penalties

and an inability to convert third-down opportunities as they started 0-of-7 and finished 3-of-13 against the Wolverines.

"It was very difficult and just hard to get into a rhythm," Nebraska quarterback **TAYLOR MARTINEZ** said. "It was a really weird game because a lot of stuff happened with the special teams."

BURKHEAD BOTTLED UP

Michigan limited Nebraska I-back **REX BURKHEAD** to a season-low 36 yards rushing on 10 carries and snapped his school-record string of consecutive games with at least one rushing touchdown at 10. Burkhead had just 4 yards rushing on four attempts in the first half.

Michigan senior defensive tackle Mike Martin said shutting down Burkhead and Nebraska's ground game was a point of emphasis for the Wolverines.

"It was one of our main focuses during the week," Martin said. "Preparation is key and we talk about that every day on our team. Beginning Sunday to Monday,

GameNotes



Michigan's **DENARD ROBINSON** was a major factor in the Wolverines' victory over Nebraska. The junior quarterback rushed 23 times for 83 yards and two TDs and completed 11 of 18 pass attempts for 180 yards

and two more scores with one interception. "He's a good player. He made us miss a few times," Nebraska coach **BO PELINI** said. "We made him look good in the throwing game a couple of times. We had how many balls that we could've intercepted?"

"We had our opportunities to make plays and we didn't do it."

Robinson also got plenty of support from Michigan running back **FITZGERALD TROUSSAINT**, who rushed 29 times for 138 yards and two TDs.

between watching film, getting looks from our scout team — they did a great job — I felt like we prepared well and it showed on the field."

Entering the game ranked second in the Big Ten and 13th nationally in rushing offense (232.7 yards per game), Nebraska rushed 31 times for 138 net yards against Michigan.

TACKLING MACHINE

Nebraska linebacker **LAVONTE DAVID** had a team-high 17 tackles against Michigan, increasing his career total to 266 and moving him to seventh on the Huskers' career tackles chart. The senior is within eight tackles of the top five on NU's all-time list.

"He's a great football player," Nebraska

defensive coordinator **CARL PELINI** said of David. "He comes to play every week. I thought today, uncharacteristically, we made a lot of mistakes in a lot of areas — offense, defense, special teams — but he played a great game. He always does."

David, who is a semifinalist for the Butkus Award, Bednarik Award and Lott Trophy, has 114 tackles this season and became only the fifth player in Nebraska history with consecutive 100-tackle seasons, joining **JERRY MURTAUGH, CLETE PILLEN, LEE KUNZ** and **BARRETT RUUD**.

"There aren't very many Lavonte Davids in the country," Pelini said. "You ask me if we have a lot of Lavonte Davids? No. Neither does anybody else. No. I promise you that."

NEW WRINKLE

One of Nebraska's offensive highlights was a new wrinkle that resulted in a 3-yard TD run for I-back Ameer Abdullah with 53 seconds remaining third quarter.

On the play, Martinez took a shotgun snap and handed off to Burkhead, who then ran an option to his right, pitching to Abdullah for the score.

"We've had that in for a few weeks," Martinez said. "We've been running it in practice and we were just waiting for the perfect time to bring it out. Today was the time, I guess."

WORTH NOTING

► The crowd of 113,718 at Michigan Stadium was the largest ever to see a Nebraska football game. The previous high was 110,753 when the Huskers played Penn State at Beaver Stadium in 2002.

► Nebraska's Brett Maher established a pair of career-bests against the Wolverines with a 51-yard field goal in the second quarter and a 69-yard punt in the third quarter.

► Nebraska's game captains against Michigan were quarterback Taylor Martinez, offensive guard Spencer Long, linebacker Lavonte David and kicker/punter Brett Maher.



MICHIGAN FANS HOLD COLORED CARDS TO FORM THE AMERICAN FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AT MICHIGAN STADIUM PRIOR TO KICKOFF.

PHOTO BY AARON BABCOCK



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ICE

45

MICHIGAN

17

NEBRASKA



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: 1) Terrence Moore returns an interception against the Wolverines. *Photo by Scott Bruhn* 2) Lavonte David makes one of his team-high 17 tackles. *Photo by Aaron Babcock* 3) Cameron Meredith is held while trying to make a tackle. No penalty was called on the play. *Photo by Aaron Babcock* 4) Lance Thorell tries to break up a pass in the Nebraska endzone, but is called for pass interference. *Photo by Aaron Babcock*





RUSHING OFFENSE: There wasn't much run game to speak of here. Nebraska handed the ball to Rex Burkhead just four times in the first half and never really established enough of a run game to open throwing lanes for Taylor Martinez in the play-action passing game. Nebraska came out with a fire against Penn State, but Saturday against Michigan the Cornhuskers never seemed to establish any kind of rhythm. For a team whose entire offense is based on establishing the run, the failure to get a run game going proved to be a bad sign. By the time the Huskers started running the ball late in the third quarter, Nebraska already trailed 31-10.

D

PASSING OFFENSE: We liked Martinez finding Brandon Kinnie out of the diamond formation in the second quarter to get Nebraska back into the game. Beyond that, Nebraska and Martinez failed to find the easy rhythm it had enjoyed during the past two games. Nebraska's inability to gain yards on first and second down meant that the Huskers were playing behind the chains for most of the game and forced them to get away from Martinez's strength - short, quick passes and play-action passes.

D

RUSHING DEFENSE: Denard Robinson certainly didn't dazzle with his passing, but he was effective enough early on to get the Wolverines started - and late to put the game clearly out of reach for Nebraska. Robinson had a 46-yard pass to the Nebraska 6-yard line to set up the first touchdown. On that play, Husker cornerback Alfonzo Dennard appeared to get turned around, then collided with receiver Roy Roundtree and going to the ground. Two plays later, Robinson passed to Jeremy Gallon cutting in front of Dennard for the touchdown. With breathing room on the scoreboard, Michigan needed only to pass in predictable situations, focusing on running the ball and the clock. Late in the game, Robinson beat double coverage deep for a TD pass that sealed the deal for the Wolverines.

F

PASSING DEFENSE: Penn State went into the game ranked eighth in the Big Ten in passing offense, and the Nittany Lions had little consistent success through the air. Matt McGloin did complete four of five passes for 64 yards on Penn State's third-quarter touchdown drive. But as was the case with the Nittany Lions' rushing offense, their passing game wasn't consistently successful. In addition, Nebraska's offense did enough to keep its defense from being on the field an inordinate amount of time.

D

KICKING/SPECIAL TEAMS: Last week against Penn State, Nebraska's special teams units were a big reason the Huskers escaped Happy Valley with a win. Saturday against Michigan, Nebraska's special teams put the Huskers in tough positions several times. The Huskers had a Brett Maher punt blocked, the Wolverines converted a fake field goal attempt, kick returner Kenny Bell fumbled the opening kickoff of the third quarter and Wil Richards' 15-yard roughing the kicker penalty on a punt in the fourth quarter kept alive a Michigan drive. Michigan quickly scored, making a seven-point deficit into a 14-point advantage. Maher kicked a 51-yard field goal in the second quarter and booted a ball that pinned Michigan deep in the third quarter, but the special teams were otherwise a liability.

F



PHOTOS BY AARON BABCOCK

QUICK PICKS



	Aaron Babcock (3-5, 66-20)	Mike Babcock (2-6, 62-24)	Michael Bruntz (4-4, 62-24)	Terry Douglass (4-4, 65-21)	Kevin Kugler (2-6, 61-25)	Matt Davison (2-6, 62-24)
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Iowa at Nebraska	NU 20-17	NU 31-21	NU 20-17	NU 20-17	NU 30-17	NU 34-24
Texas at Texas A&M	A&M 30-20	A&M 35-32	UT 31-28	A&M 33-31	UT 31-21	A&M 41-31
Arkansas at LSU	LSU 28-13	LSU 28-14	LSU 31-20	LSU 38-17	LSU 35-17	LSU 27-24
Ohio State at Michigan	UM 24-21	UM 21-20	UM 27-20	UM 24-17	OSU 21-20	UM 24-21
Alabama at Auburn	Bama 28-7	Bama 24-21	Bama 30-20	Bama 28-13	Bama 31-10	Bama 38-21
Oregon State at Oregon	OU 49-20	OU 49-10	OU 45-10	OU 56-35	OU 41-10	OU 56-13
Penn State at Wisconsin	UW 28-12	UW 31-17	UW 30-17	UW 30-7	UW 31-17	UW 27-13
Clemson at South Carolina	UC 27-17	USC 35-24	USC 27-20	USC 35-33	UC 31-13	UC 31-28

SUMMARY

SCORING

November 19, 2011
Michigan Stadium, Ann Arbor, MI
Attendance: 113,718

	1	2	3	4	F
NEBRASKA	7	3	7	0	17
MICHIGAN	10	7	14	14	45

Q1	8:17 MICH - Gallon, Jeremy 6 yd pass from Robinson, D. (Gibbons, B. kick), 8-79 4:01	0	7
	2:03 MICH - Gibbons, B. 42 yd field goal, 9-30 4:20	0	10
	1:17 NEB - Kinnie, Brandon 54 yd pass from Martinez, T. (Maher kick), 3-65 0:46	7	10
Q2	12:12 NEB - Maher, Brett 51 yd field goal, 4-1 1:29	10	10
	6:05 MICH - Robinson, D. 14 yd run (Gibbons, B. kick), 12-74 6:07	10	17
Q3	11:23 MICH - Robinson, D. 1 yd run (Gibbons, B. kick), 7-33 3:29	10	24
	5:03 MICH - Toussaint, F. 1 yd run (Gibbons, B. kick), 8-50 3:29	10	31
	0:53 NEB - Abdullah, Ameer 3 yd run (Maher, Brett kick), 7-31 1:41	17	31
Q4	10:14 MICH - Odoms, M. 38 yd pass from Robinson (Gibbons kick), 10-86 5:46	17	38
	7:33 MICH - Toussaint, F. 31 yd run (Gibbons, B. kick), 1-31 0:08	17	45

TEAM STATS

	NEB	MICH
FIRST DOWNS	11	24
Rushing	7	14
Passing	4	6
Penalty	0	4
NET YARDS RUSHING	138	238
Rushing Attempts	31	61
Average Per Rush	4.5	3.9
Rushing Touchdowns	1	4
Yards Gained Rushing	162	271
Yards Lost Rushing	24	33
NET YARDS PASSING	122	180
Comp-Att-Int	9-23-0	11-19-1
Average Per Attempt	5.3	9.5
Average Per Completion	13.6	16.4
Passing Touchdowns	1	2
TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS	260	418
Total offense plays	54	80
Average Gain Per Play	4.8	5.2
Fumbles: Number-Lost	4-3	0-0
Penalties: Number-Yards	8-73	5-45
PUNTS-YARDS	6-276	4-147
Average Yards Per Punt	46.0	36.8
Net Yards Per Punt	40.5	34.0
Inside 20	2	0
50+ Yards	2	1
Touchbacks	0	0
Fair catch	0	2
KICKOFFS-YARDS	4-268	8-537
Average Yards Per Kickoff	67.0	67.1
Net Yards Per Kickoff	44.5	44.8
Touchbacks	1	1
Punt returns: Number-Yards-TD	1-11-0	5-33-0
Average Per Return	11.0	6.6
Kickoff returns: Number-Yds-TD	7-159-0	3-70-0
Average Per Return	22.7	23.3
Interceptions: Number-Yds-TD	1-10-0	0-0-0
Fumble Returns: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Miscellaneous Yards	0	0
Possession Time	18:39	41:13
Third-Down Conversions	3 of 13	8 of 18
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 2	1 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	1-2	5-5
Touchdowns	1-2	4-5
Field goals	0-2	1-5
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-13	3-4

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

NEBRASKA

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	LG	AVG
Martinez, Taylor	16	66	17	49	0	16	3.1
Burkhead, Rex	10	43	7	36	0	9	3.6
Marlowe, Tim	1	23	0	23	0	23	23.0
Abdullah, Ameer	2	19	0	19	1	16	9.5
David, Lavonte	1	6	0	6	0	6	6.0
Green, Aaron	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0
Totals	31	162	24	138	1	23	4.5

PASSING	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LONG	SACK
Martinez, Taylor	9-23-0	122	1	54	3

RECEIVING	NO	YARDS	TD	LONG
Marlowe, Tim	3	24	0	12
Enunwa, Quincy	3	21	0	13
Kinnie, Brandon	1	54	1	54
Reed, Kyler	1	15	0	15
Bell, Kenny	1	8	0	8
Totals	9	122	1	54

PUNTS	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	IN20	TB
Maher, Brett	6	276	46.0	69	2	0

	PUNTS			KICKOFFS			INTERCEPTIONS		
RETURNS	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG
Abdullah, Ameer	1	11	11	2	38	30	0	0	0
Bell, Kenny	0	0	0	1	33	33	0	0	0
Moore, Terrence	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	10
Marlowe, Tim	0	0	0	4	88	28	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS	QTR	TIME	DISTANCE	RES
Maher, Brett	2nd	12:12	51 yards	Good

DEFENSE	TS	AT	TT	SACK-YD	TFL-YD	FF	FR-YD	INT-YD	BU	BLK	QBH
David, Lavonte	14	3	17	0.5-6	2.5-9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meredith, C.	5	4	9	-	0.5-2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stafford, D.	5	2	7	0.5-7	1.5-9	-	-	-	1	-	-
Compton, Will	5	1	6	-	1.0-2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cassidy, Austin	5	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dennard, A.	4	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steinkuhler, B.	2	2	4	-	1.0-4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ebke, Jim	3	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thorell, Lance	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whaley, Alonzo	2	1	3	-	1.5-4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Martin, Eric	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green, Andrew	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Moore, Terrence	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	1-10	-	-	-
Rome, Chase	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evans, Ciente	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Williams, Josh	1	0	1	-	1.0-3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stoddard, G.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jean-Baptiste, S.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smith, P.J.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

MICHIGAN

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	LG	AVG
Toussaint, F.	29	149	11	138	2	31	4.8
Robinson, D.	23	100	17	83	2	16	3.6
Hopkins, S.	2	15	0	15	0	12	7.5
Dileo, Drew	1	4	0	4	0	4	4.0
Odoms, M.	1	1	0	1	0	1	1.0
Shaw, Michael	2	2	2	0	0	2	0.0
TEAM	3	0	3	-3	0	0	-1.0
Totals	61	271	33	238	4	31	3.9

PASSING	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LONG	SACK
Robinson, D.	11-18-1	180	2	46	1
Gardner, Devin	0-1-0	0	0	0	0
Totals	11-19-1	180	2	46	1

RECEIVING	NO	YARDS	TD	LONG
Gallon, Jeremy	3	34	1	23
Odoms, M.	2	47	1	38
Hemingway, J.	2	34	0	26
Toussaint, F.	2	4	0	7
Roundtree, Roy	1	46	0	46
Dileo, Drew	1	15	0	15
Totals	11	180	2	46

PUNTS	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	IN20	TB
Hagerup, Will	4	147	36.8	50	0	0

	PUNTS			KICKOFFS			INTERCEPTIONS		
RETURNS	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG
Gallon, Jeremy	4	27	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
Furman, Josh	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Odoms, M.	0	0	0	3	70	32	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS	QTR	TIME	DISTANCE	RES
Gibbons, B.	1st	02:03	42 yards	Good
Gibbons, B.	4th	08:36	42 yards	Missed

DEFENSE	TS	AT	TT	SACK-YD	TFL-YD	FF	FR-YD	INT-YD	BU	BLK	QBH
Kovacs, Jordan	7	0	7	-	1.0-5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Demens, Kenny	2	3	5	0.5-0	0.5-0	-	-	-	1	-	-
Martin, Mike	1	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morgan, D.	1	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Simmons, Floyd	3	0	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hollowell, D.	3	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ryan, Jake	2	1	3	0.5-1	0.5-1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hawthorne, B.	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furman, Josh	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Van Bergen, R.	2	0	2	1.0-2	2.0-4	-	1-0	-	1	-	-
Floyd, J.T.	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Campbell, W.	2	0	2	1.0-1	1.0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Countess, Blake	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heininger, Will	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cavanaugh, M.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gallon, Jeremy	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taylor, Raymon	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Avery, Courtney	1	0	1	-	1.0-7	-	1-0	-	1	-	-
Robinson, T.	1	0	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Roh, Craig	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woolfolk, Troy	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Gordon, Thomas	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Van Slyke, J.	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Fitzgerald, J.	0	0	0	-	-	-	1-0	-	-	-	-

IN THE RedZone

Jones stands out in 2007 recruiting class

Marcel Jones and Jaivorio Burkes grew up in the Phoenix area and first competed against each other on AAU basketball teams when they were in the fifth and sixth grades, according to Jones. “We were both the bigger guys on the court,” Jones said.

“And he was like, ‘Hey, man, you’re just as big as I am.’ I’m like, ‘No, I’m not. You’re bigger than me.’”

“We’d always argue about who was bigger. We’d go at it because we were pretty much the only two kids that knew how to play in the post at that age. It was fun back in the day.”

Jones and Burkes went to

different high schools, but came to Nebraska together, members of the Huskers’ 2007 recruiting class, both offensive linemen. The class included three other high school players from Arizona: Prince Amukamara, Eric Hagg and Will Yancy.

Hagg and Yancy were teammates at Ironwood High School.

Like Hagg and Amukamara, Burkes was among 11 from the class who played as true



freshmen. Burkes even started three games late in the season, after Lydon Murtha was sidelined by injury. After earning a second letter in 2008, however, health issues ended Burkes' career.

Jones has maintained contact with Burkes, though. "I haven't really kept in touch too much this season," he said. "This is my senior year. I've got a lot of classes and stuff like that, but I try to keep in touch. He's still back home in Arizona. He goes to ASU (Arizona State)."

"He told me he was going to try to do law school. I don't know about that. That's going to take a lot of commitment from him, but if he does it, that would be great for him. I'm happy he's still in school. And happy he's still doing well. He's a good guy."

Burkes was forced to give up football and the season-ending injury to his roommate at Nebraska, Jared Crick, are reminders of how lucky he has been, Jones said.

The 2007 recruiting class (the last under Bill Callahan) was large, including 20 freshmen and six junior college transfers.

2007 NU Football Recruiting Class

HIGH SCHOOL

Prince Amukamara, ATH	6-1, 180	Glendale, Ariz.
Anthony Blue, DB	5-10, 175	Cedar Hill, Texas
Jaivorio Burkes, OL	6-5, 315	Phoenix, Ariz.
Quentin Castille, RB	6-1, 235	La Porte, Texas
Jared Crick, DE	6-6, 260	Cozad, Neb.
Curenski Gilleylen, WR	6-0, 210	Leander, Texas
Eric Hagg, ATH	6-1, 195	Peoria, Ariz.
Roy Helu, Jr. RB	6-0, 220	Danville, Calif.
Ryan Hill, TE	6-3, 230	Arvada, Colo.
Marcel Jones, OL	6-7, 300	Phoenix, Ariz.
Adi Kunalic, K	6-0, 175	Fort Worth, Texas
Blake Lawrence, LB	6-2, 200	Shawnee Mission, Kan.
Marcus Mendoza, RB	5-10, 185	Houston, Texas
Terrence Moore, DT	6-3, 275	New Orleans, La.
Niles Paul, WR	6-1, 210	Omaha, Neb.
Austin Stafford, LB	6-2, 205	Hayward, Calif.
Shawn Sullivan, DB	5-10, 190	Brenham, Texas
Latravis Washington, DB	6-3, 210	Bradenton, Fla.
Patrick Witt, QB	6-4, 220	Wylie, Texas
William Yancy, DE	6-4, 230	Glendale, Ariz.

JUNIOR COLLEGE

Larry Asante, S	6-1, 210	Alexandria, Va. (Coffeyville, Kan., CC)
Shukree Barfield, DT	6-4, 310	Camden, N.J. (Garden City, Kan., CC)
Kevin Dixon, DT	6-3, 295	Vero Beach, Fla. (Garden City, Kan., CC)
Zac Lee, QB	6-2, 210	San Francisco, Calif. (San Francisco City College)
Armando Murillo, CB	6-0, 195	Tampa, Fla. (Eastern Arizona CC)
Joseph Townsend, DT	6-3, 285	San Jose, Calif. (Foothill CC)



BY MIKE SCHAEFER
RECRUITING EDITOR,
HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

McMullen reaffirms

4-star defensive end Greg McMullen says he's set to become part of the Nebraska family

GREG MCMULLEN



GREG MCMULLEN is the current star of Nebraska's recruiting class. He's also not anywhere close to going back on his commitment.

"I said months ago, once I commit, I committed," he said. "There's no de-committing. I'm set on becoming part of the Nebraska family."

Any talk of him going to Notre Dame is "just rumors. I haven't been to South Bend." The 4-star defensive end did make the trip to State College, Pa., to watch Nebraska take on the Nittany Lions, however. McMullen said he was impressed by the size of the stadium and the crowd, but was mostly glad to see Nebraska get a win.

"Above all else I was there to watch the Cornhuskers," he said. "I couldn't care less about Penn State. I was excited to see the Cornhuskers bounce back and get a win."

The defensive end said he's been watching the Huskers

closely and called it an interesting experience. He's trying to make any game that's close to Akron, Ohio. McMullen is Nebraska's highest rated commit and provides help at either defensive tackle or defensive end. He said he could project to either position at the next level.

"I talked with coach JP (John Papuchis) and the weightlifting staff and they think I can play a front technique, which is outside the tackle and head up with the tackle," he said. "I think eventually they'll want to get creative and move me all around as my progression increases. But just from what they're saying, I'm a defensive end."

This season he finished with 65 tackles, 12.5 sacks and 15 quarterback hurries. Archbishop Hoban coach Ralph Orsini was impressed with the toughness of McMullen. Orsini said his star player showed an ability to play through numerous injuries,

including ones with his knee and shoulder.

Orsini also thinks McMullen displayed a strong competitive spirit and has the ability to step up to any challenge. As one of the best defenders in his class, McMullen drew attention from numerous players on the opposing offenses.

"I wish that the motor was running all the time, but the other thing we have to remember is that in high school Greg was double- or triple-teamed most of the time," Orsini said. "At times it might not look like he was going as hard as he did the previous play, but in all honesty, that's because of the hard work he put in. He needs a little bit of a break because he's not going against just one individual, but two and three. That will wear you down throughout the course of a game."

McMullen's ability to play either inside or outside makes him an intriguing part of

Sartor Hamann
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**DIAMONDS IN
THE ROUGH**
Each week on
Huskers Illustrated Radio



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Nebraska's 2012 class. That sort of value is big because the Huskers only have 18 available scholarships, meaning it's important that the program maximizes its use of every offer. The lack of scholarships changes the way Nebraska recruits its players a little. The Huskers will take numbers to fit needs more this season than during any other.

POSITION UPDATES

Here's a position-group breakdown of where Nebraska stands and whom it's targeting.

Quarterback

The Huskers have already landed Tommy Armstrong, but a push remains to snatch a second quarterback. Nebraska remains thin at the position with only a pair of scholarship quarterbacks on the roster. The Huskers are targeting Devin Fuller, Anthony Alford and Alonzo Moore. All three have visited and all three came away impressed. The bonus is that any of these quarterbacks could move to another position.

Running Backs

Having added three running backs in the past year, it's not a position of need. However, Nebraska did offer fullback Christian Powell. A commit from Powell gives the team a possible solution at the position after Tyler Legate leaves.

Wide Receiver

The Huskers have been linked to a lot of wide receivers but already have one commitment from 4-star Jordan Westerkamp.

Each week it seems like a different Illinois high school football coach is raving about him, and Westerkamp's commitment looks like a big coup for the program. Because Westerkamp is very good, it lessens the need to have to get a wide receiver. If Nebraska doesn't end up with a Monty Madaris, Kenny Lawler or Alonzo Moore, the team might find somewhere else to look.

Tight End

It looks like Nebraska is content with taking Sam Cotton as its only tight end this season. Cotton has put together a decent season for Lincoln Southeast, but he's not quite the playmaker that Kyler Reed gives Nebraska at the position. Reed and Ben Cotton (Sam's brother) are both juniors and while there are a lot of bodies behind the two, the staff has made tight end a priority.

Orlando David and Keoni Bush-Loo remain targets, but neither seems likely at this point. A name to watch is Nate Ilese. He's being looked at as both a tight end and a defensive end.

Offensive Line

Expect the Huskers to end up with at least three offensive linemen. Nebraska already has a commitment from Paul Thurston, so it appears the program is looking for two others to join him. Andrus Peat and Ronnie Stanley are the big names. Both have gotten looks from schools such as Stanford, Florida State and Alabama. Stanley visited for the Michigan State game and Peat comes for the Iowa game. Mike Shoff is an in-state kid to keep an eye on.

Defensive Line

At this point in the process the Huskers are likely to take just two defensive linemen. Joining McMullen as an intriguing defensive line prospect is Taiwan Johnson. The Manvel, Texas, product has the size to play inside or outside. He recently visited Nebraska for the Northwestern game and had a great time. Johnson becomes an important target for Nebraska, as the

Huskers missed out on ballyhooed prospect Jonathan Bullard, who eliminated the Huskers from his top three.

Edwardsville, Ill., defensive tackle Vincent Valentine could also be a strong fit. Adding Valentine gives Nebraska another strong defensive tackle prospect. A name to watch is Avery Moss of Temple, Ariz. He's related to fellow recruit Andrus Peat and current Husker Todd Peat, Jr. Moss, a defensive end, is expected to make an official visit for the Iowa game.

Linebacker

Nebraska has commitments from Michael Rose, Deion Jones and Zaire Anderson. Do not be surprised if the Huskers keep being linked to other linebackers. Lavonte David is a senior and Will Compton is a junior. The cupboard is bare after that.

Quanzell Lambert is the big name still out there for Nebraska. The New Jersey linebacker visited for the Michigan State game and was impressed with Nebraska's defensive concepts. However, others such as Jared Afalava, T.J. Neal and Thomas Brown will garner consideration, too. There are other possibilities, including 4-star Brian Nance.

Defensive Backs

Despite aggressively pursuing several players, Nebraska is still empty-handed here. The Huskers have been linked with Brandon Beaver, Jordan Diggs, Marcus Rios, Mohammed Seisay, Daniel Gray, Derrick Raymond and others.

Rios is the only one in that group who has not visited, but he will be in for the Iowa game. Beaver and Diggs continue to take other visits, while Gray committed to Tennessee and Raymond reaffirmed his commitment to LSU.

Seisay is a strong possibility for Nebraska because he could conceivably step in and help out a secondary that will be losing Alfonzo Dennard.

2012 NEBRASKA COMMITS



★★★★

GREG MCMULLEN

DE, 6-5, 225, Akron, Ohio
(Archbishop Hoban)
247Sports Rating: 94



★★★★

MICHAEL ROSE

LB, 6-0, 225, Kansas City Mo.
(Rockhurst)
247Sports Rating: 93



★★★★

PAUL THURSTON

OT, 6-5, 275, Arvada, Colo.
(Arvada West)
247Sports Rating: 92



★★★★

JORDAN WESTERKAMP

WR, 6-1, 190, Lombard, Ill.
(Montini Catholic)
247Sports Rating: 90



★★★

DEION JONES

OLB, 6-2, 200, New Orleans
(Jesuit)
247Sports Rating: 88



★★★

TOMMY ARMSTRONG

QB, 6-1, 200, Schertz, Texas
(Byron P Steele)
247Sports Rating: 86



★★★

ZAIRE ANDERSON

LB, 6-0, 220, Riverside, Calif.
(Riverside CC)
247Sports Rating: 85



★★★

SAM COTTON

TE, 6-4, 235, Lincoln, Neb.
(Lincoln Southeast)
247Sports Rating: 81

"Typical recruit" turning into a big time blocker

Thramer becoming more consistent as she finally gets her chance on the court. | BOB HAMAR



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

IT TOOK HAYLEY THRAMER A LONG TIME TO MAKE HER COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL DEBUT.

Thramer, a 6-foot-2 middle blocker from Ewing, Neb., redshirted her opening year with the Nebraska program. In the spring of 2010, Thramer and the Huskers were dealt a blow when she suffered a shoulder injury in the final spring match against Minnesota.

Thramer had been playing well that spring and appeared ready to make a bid for playing time that fall, but the

shoulder surgery she had that summer put an end to what would have been her freshman season.

Thramer moved into the starting lineup early this season. Her attack percentage, which was below .250 late this year, isn't where Nebraska coach John Cook would want it, but he's been pleased with other parts of her game.

"I think she's being more consistent is probably the best way to describe

her," Cook said. "Her attack numbers should be much higher and we're working on that. But she is a good blocker. We expect her to get a lot of blocks."

Thramer has been doing that this season. She led the team in blocking with 1.23 blocks per set going into the final two weekends of the regular season. Thramer is following in a long line of Husker players who entered the program as projects and turned into top-notch volleyball players.

"She's another typical Nebraska recruit," Cook said. "She's from a small town. Her timetable to become a really good player is maybe slower than some other players, but she is certainly making progress. She's had some big-time plays for us."

"We don't just come out and roll a ball out there. We train. Those kinds of kids blossom in this environment."

Cook compares Thramer to Melissa Elmer, who is Nebraska's all-time leader in block assists and total blocks. Elmer came to NU as a raw talent in 2001 and developed into one of the best blockers in NCAA history.

Mid-week volleyball

The Big Ten has one volleyball game each Wednesday. That's one fewer than Cook wanted to see.

"What we originally proposed was taking a quad and having a double-header every Wednesday night," Cook said. "This was the Coach Cook proposal at the Big Ten meetings. Long story short, they didn't go for that. Ironically, (Tom) Osborne told me, now they're realizing how big Wednesday nights are for volleyball."

"Coach Osborne was at meetings last week and they said they love Wednesday night volleyball right now, which is a no-brainer," Cook said. "What else is on Wednesday night?"

Changing nights

Cook isn't that pleased with how the volleyball schedule is shifted around for other sports either. He said Purdue played Iowa recently on a Thursday because there was basketball scheduled for Friday. Nebraska played Iowa this week on a Tuesday because there was a basketball tournament starting on Wednesday.

"We're in season," he said. "We're coming right down to the end and we're moving around for other sports."

That's one of several different reasons Cook favors moving college volleyball to the spring.

Tournament ready

Playing a tough Big Ten schedule should help the Huskers when NCAA Tournament play starts in early December.

The Friday-Saturday format the Big Ten uses is exactly what NU will face at tournament time.

"When you get to tournament time, you're playing two games back-to-back, and they're good teams," Husker sophomore Morgan Broekhuis said. "We feel that will be a benefit when we get down to it."

2011 Volleyball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME/SCORE
AUG. 20	RED/WHITE MATCH	NU COLISEUM	3-1 (W)
<i>MCM ELEGANTE LOBO CLASSIC</i>			
AUG. 26	NEW MEXICO ST.	AT ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.	3-2 (W)
AUG. 27	NEW MEXICO	AT ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.	3-0 (W)
SEPT. 2	COLORADO STATE	AT FORT COLLINS, COLO.	2-3 (L)
SEPT. 3	ALBANY	AT FORT COLLINS, COLO.	3-0 (W)
<i>AMERITAS PLAYERS CHALLENGE</i>			
SEPT. 8	CREIGHTON	NU COLISEUM	3-0 (W)
SEPT. 9	ST. MARY'S	NU COLISEUM	3-2 (W)
SEPT. 10	WEBER STATE	NU COLISEUM	3-0 (W)
SEPT. 17	IOWA STATE	DEVANEY CENTER	3-0 (W)
SEPT. 21	PENN STATE*	NU COLISEUM	3-2 (W)
SEPT. 24	OHIO STATE*	NU COLISEUM	3-1 (W)
SEPT. 30	MICHIGAN STATE*	AT EAST LANSING, MICH.	3-2 (W)
OCT. 1	MICHIGAN*	AT ANN ARBOR, MICH.	3-0 (W)
OCT. 7	PURDUE*	NU COLISEUM	3-1 (W)
OCT. 8	INDIANA*	NU COLISEUM	3-0 (W)
OCT. 14	WISCONSIN*	AT MADISON, WIS.	3-0 (W)
OCT. 15	MINNESOTA*	AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	3-2 (W)
OCT. 19	IOWA*	NU COLISEUM	3-0 (W)
OCT. 22	ILLINOIS*	NU COLISEUM	3-1 (W)
OCT. 28	OHIO STATE*	AT COLUMBUS, OHIO	3-1 (W)
OCT. 29	PENN STATE*	AT UNIVERSITY PARK, PA.	1-3 (L)
NOV. 4	MICHIGAN*	NU COLISEUM	3-1 (W)
NOV. 5	MICHIGAN STATE*	NU COLISEUM	3-0 (W)
NOV. 11	INDIANA*	AT BLOOMINGTON, IND.	3-0 (W)
NOV. 12	PURDUE*	AT WEST LAFAYETTE, IND.	0-3 (L)
NOV. 16	MINNESOTA*	NU COLISEUM	3-1 (W)
NOV. 19	WISCONSIN*	NU COLISEUM	7 P.M.
NOV. 23	IOWA*	AT IOWA CITY, IOWA	6 P.M.
NOV. 26	NORTHWESTERN*	AT EVANSTON, ILL.	7 P.M.
<i>NCAA TOURNAMENT</i>			
DEC. 1-3	1ST/2ND ROUNDS	AT CAMPUS SITES	TBA
DEC. 9-10	REGIONALS		TBA
(AT LEXINGTON/GAINESVILLE/HONOLULU/MINNEAPOLIS)			
DEC. 15-17	FINAL FOUR	AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	TBA

* BIG TEN MATCH;

ALL TIMES CENTRAL, DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



**HAYLEY
THRASHER**

PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

"Physically they're a lot alike," Cook said. "Big hands, the way they're built. There is a lot of geometry that goes into blocking and body types. The way her body is built, the geometry allows her to get her hands over the net, easy."

Cook struggled to explain exactly what allows a player like Thrasher to be a great blocker.

"It's a geometry thing. I can't explain how it works," he said. "Elmer just had the right geometry. (Former Husker) Amber Holmquist is the best I've ever seen. She had poor posture, but it allowed her to be a really good blocker. She just has a great natural instinct. Long arms, big hands, long legs."

Nebraska setter Lauren Cook said Thrasher has improved greatly this season.

"When she's in the game, I trust I can go to her and she's going

to do something with the ball," Lauren Cook said. "It's a wall when she's in there to block. She talks. We're all really close. She's not the loudest player on the court. She's almost a silent leader. She's doing a great job."

Thrasher showed her versatility as an athlete at Ewing High School. The volleyball team went 91-4 with a state title and two runner-up finishes during her career. She also led Ewing to three straight Class D-2 state basketball championships and placed at state in the high jump her junior and senior years.

"She's a great athlete," John Cook said. "She's still not a great volleyball player. She's somebody that's developing, and the only way you can develop is to play. She's been doing some really good things in practice. She's probably our best blocker; she's learning to attack and she's a competitor."

Around THE Horn

| BRIAN ROSENTHAL

THIS ISSUE BASKETBALL



CALEB WALKER

PHOTO BY AARON BABCOCK

D-1 Adjustment

Caleb Walker knew he'd have to adjust to a faster-paced game. He figured the talent level would be greater at the Division I level.

What he didn't expect coming from the junior college ranks, though, was the off-court responsibilities.

That transition was as difficult as any, Walker said.

"Like when you get back from a late-night trip and Coach says you have to be in class at 8 o'clock, you gotta be there," Walker said. "I'd never really experienced it like that. It's hard. It's rough."

Walker, a 6-foot-4 senior

guard on the Nebraska basketball team, said he spent most of last season "trying to process things and catch on" as a junior college transfer.

Ade Dagunduro and Lance Jeter can relate.

They, too, were junior college transfers under Doc Sadler who talked about the challenging transition

to Division I basketball, then blossomed on the court as seniors.

Nebraska fans are hoping Walker, a native of Hutchinson, Kan., can follow the same path.

If his performance in the Huskers' 65-48 victory over South Dakota is any indication, Walker will do that, and then some.

Walker scored seven of his 16 points in the first 4 minutes to lead Nebraska to victory in its season-opener. He scored on a put-back, made a 3-pointer and dunked a missed Jorge Brian Diaz shot to give the Huskers a 7-4 lead.

"I thought I needed to help my team out by going to the boards as hard as I could," said Walker, who finished with seven rebounds, including four offensive. "It helps my team out to get another possession."

Walker's 16 points were a career high, topping the 13 he scored three times last season. He was 3-for-3 on 3-pointers, also a career best.

Walker led Nebraska with 4.5 rebounds a game last season while averaging six points in 27 starts. He says he can do better as an overall player this season.

"I want to be a presence on offense and defense," Walker said, "whether it's making a play late in the game, being in tune mentally into the game, going to get a rebound, defending, making a shot when I need to, making the right pass."

Dagunduro and Jeter made strides in those areas, and each player led Nebraska in scoring as seniors.

In 2008-09, Dagunduro averaged 12.8 points and 4.4 rebounds, after averaging 8.9 points his first season with the Huskers. Jeter increased his scoring average from 7.5 points as a junior to 11.7 points as a senior last season, when he also led the team in assists and was the heart and soul of Nebraska's offense.

"Usually it takes guys until about January of their first year to really get a full feeling for how

it's going to be," Nebraska coach Doc Sadler said of junior college transfers. "Right now, there's no doubt about it. Caleb's playing about as well as he has. Just has to get more consistent, and once he does that . . . he's got to be a leader with this deal."

Leadership, Walker said, is one of the biggest attributes he can bring to the team. Nebraska has four newcomers to the program, including three true freshmen.

"As a senior, you have a lot of young guys who look up to you," Walker said. "You have to do everything right, off and on the court, and show them how it's done."

Walker said he'd advise the junior college transfer on this year's team – guard Dylan Talley – of the challenges awaiting him this season, especially the ones off the court.

No, it's not easy as a junior college transfer.

"At the end," Walker said, "it'll all be worth it though."



11-12 Men's Basketball Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME/SCORE
NOV. 7	DOANE (EXH)	DEVANEY CENTER	76-54 (W)
NOV. 11	SOUTH DAKOTA	DEVANEY CENTER	65-48 (W)
NOV. 14	USC	AT LOS ANGELES, CA	64-61 OT (W)
NOV. 20	RHODE ISLAND	DEVANEY CENTER	1 P.M.
NOV. 23	OREGON	DEVANEY CENTER	8 P.M.
NOV. 26	SOUTH DAKOTA ST	DEVANEY CENTER	1 P.M.
NOV. 30	WAKE FOREST	DEVANEY CENTER	8:15 P.M.
DEC. 4	CREIGHTON	AT OMAHA, NEB.	4:05 P.M.
DEC. 7	FL. GULF COAST	DEVANEY CENTER	7 P.M.
DEC. 10	TCU	AT FORTH WORTH, TEX.	7 P.M.
DEC. 17	ALCORN STATE	DEVANEY CENTER	7 P.M.
DEC. 20	CENTRAL MICHIGAN	DEVANEY CENTER	7 P.M.
DEC. 27	WISCONSIN*	DEVANEY CENTER	8 P.M.
DEC. 31	MICHIGAN STATE*	DEVANEY CENTER	2 P.M.
JAN. 3	OHIO STATE*	AT COLUMBUS, OHIO	5:30 P.M.
JAN. 7	ILLINOIS*	AT CHAMPAIGN, ILL.	NOON
JAN. 11	PENN STATE*	DEVANEY CENTER	7:30 P.M.
JAN. 15	WISCONSIN*	AT MADISON, WISC.	5 P.M.
JAN. 18	INDIANA*	DEVANEY CENTER	6 P.M.
JAN. 21	OHIO STATE*	DEVANEY CENTER	7 P.M.
JAN. 26	IOWA*	AT IOWA CITY, IOWA	6 P.M.
FEB. 2	NORTHWESTERN*	AT EVANSTON, ILL.	6 P.M.
FEB. 5	MINNESOTA*	DEVANEY CENTER	NOON
FEB. 8	MICHIGAN*	DEVANEY CENTER	7:30 P.M.
FEB. 11	PENN STATE*	AT STATE COLLEGE, PA.	NOON
FEB. 18	ILLINOIS*	DEVANEY CENTER	4 P.M.
FEB. 22	PURDUE*	AT WEST LAFAYETTE, IND.	5:30 P.M.
FEB. 25	MICHIGAN STATE*	AT EAST LANSING, MICH.	7 P.M.
FEB. 29	IOWA*	DEVANEY CENTER	8 P.M.
MAR. 3	MINNESOTA*	AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	11:30 A.M.
MAR. 8-11	BIG TEN TOURNAMENT	INDIANAPOLIS, IND.	

* BIG TEN MATCH;

ALL TIMES CENTRAL. DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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2011 Nebraska Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat, Sept. 3	TN at Chattanooga	2:30 p.m.
Sat, Sept. 10	Fresno State	6 p.m.
Sat, Sept. 17	Washington	2:30 p.m.
Sat, Sept. 24	Wyoming	6:30 p.m.
Sat, Oct. 1	Wisconsin *	7 p.m.
Sat, Oct. 8	Ohio State *	7 p.m.
Sat, Oct. 22	Minnesota *	2:30 p.m.
Sat, Oct. 29	Michigan State *	TBA
Sat, Nov. 5	Northwestern *	TBA
Sat, Nov. 12	Penn State *	TBA
Sat, Nov. 19	Michigan *	TBA
Fri, Nov. 25	Iowa *	11 a.m.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

SWARMING TO THE BALL

Nebraska and Purdue have met only once in football, at West Lafayette, Ind., in 1958. The Huskers came up short, losing 28-0. Here they converge on a Boilermaker ball carrier. To see how the game has changed in the last 50 years, consider the sizes of the players. Typically, they were listed at their offensive positions, but they played both ways, remember: #81 Guy Sapp (E, 6-2, 178); #14 Clay White (HB, 5-9, 177); #61 Dennis Emanuel (G, 6-0, 205); #31 Carroll Zaruba (FB, 5-9, 198); #79 Joe Gacusana (T, 6-2, 204). The game was Nebraska's second, following a 14-7 upset of Penn State at Memorial Stadium. The Huskers would finish with a 3-7 record, including a 14-6 upset of No. 14-ranked Pittsburgh in their final home game. Purdue, under third-year coach Jack Mollenkopf, would finish 6-1-2 and tied for third in the Big Ten. The Boilermakers also were ranked No. 13 in the final Associated Press poll.







25,786

SATISFIED PARTICIPANTS IN 2011



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CATCHING UP WITH DENNIS STUEWE

BY RANDY YORK

Star of '62 Michigan win follows alma mater at 70

Dennis Stuewe and his wife, Rita, were among the nearly 108,000 fans at Beaver Stadium when Nebraska joined hands and took a knee with new cross-division rival Penn State in a November football game that was about sportsmanship, support and solidarity as much as supremacy in a down-to-the-wire Big Ten Conference race among league Leaders and Legends.

A Minnesota native and longtime New Jersey resident, Stuewe, 70, sat in the stands without even a fleeting thought of his place in Husker history. He scored the first touchdown and was the game's leading rusher in what many believe was Bob Devaney's most pivotal win at Nebraska – 25-13 over Michigan in 1962 in just his second game as NU's head coach. Stuewe started that game over injured

captain Bill "Thunder" Thornton and dashed 11 yards for the game's first touchdown.

"Man, that was almost 50 years ago," Stuewe said in a telephone conversation, adding that he was more interested in talking about his experience as a fan in State College, Pa. "I was really, really, really impressed with the way everything was handled in that

game," he said.

"Everything was done with such class, and I was so proud to be sitting with a lot of Nebraska fans and a lot of Penn State fans. There

was such a bond that it was almost like a family reunion with hope and encouragement all the way around."

Stuewe's voice reaches a pause, so he can collect himself. "That game," he said, "showed the world what Nebraska is all about." It showed Husker players, coaches, students

and fans sharing empathy with Penn State faithful trying to recover from sorrow and disappointment, so they can heal and get the program back on its traditionally solid track.

If anyone knows how to keep fighting through adversity, it's Stuewe, who gave pro football his best shot for six

consecutive years after graduating at Nebraska before settling in for 30 years as a full-time high school teacher in South Plainfield, N.J. All three Stuewe children became college athletes. Son Michael walked on and became a starting wide receiver at Virginia Tech. Daughter Denise played basketball at Loyola (Md.) University, and daughter Megan played soccer at Iona (N.Y.) College.

Stuewe enjoyed seeing teammates Dennis Claridge and Pat Clare when he returned to Lincoln for the 2008 Virginia Tech game.

"Everything was done with such class, and I was so proud to be sitting with a lot of Nebraska fans and a lot of Penn State fans. There was such a bond that it was almost like a family reunion with hope and encouragement all the way around."

"Dennis grew up on a farm and was a very gifted natural athlete," recalled fellow Minnesotan Claridge, the quarterback of that '62 Nebraska win in Ann Arbor. "I remember Stuewe taking up golf and shooting consistently in the 80s that same summer. His high school coach convinced him to try out for track late one season, and he qualified for state in the 400 meters, even though it was only the third time he'd run the race in his life . . . great athlete and a great guy, great teammate, great friend."





GAMES REMEMBERED | 1971 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Hawaiian Vacation

Huskers overcome travel delays, time changes as heavy favorites cruise in Hawaii

IT SHOULD COME as no surprise that Nebraska was heavily favored against Hawaii, which counted its most significant of seven victories (in 10 games) a 28-21 upset of New Mexico. The point spread had fluctuated from 36 to 42, settling at 38 by game time.

Still there were factors to consider. Would the Huskers be focused after defeating Oklahoma in the Thanksgiving Day "Game of the Century" at Norman, Okla.? Would they be affected by the mechanical difficulties that forced them to switch planes in San Francisco during the 10-hour flight to Hawaii? Could they adjust

to the weather? Their final practice at a snow-covered Memorial Stadium was in sub-freezing temperatures. And could they adjust to the time difference? Their first practice in Hawaii began at 11:30 p.m. Lincoln time.

Kickoff for the game was midnight in Lincoln.

Such concerns quickly faded, even though Nebraska managed only a field goal on its first possession. However, on Hawaii's first possession, its third play from scrimmage, Husker monster back Dave Mason (pictured) intercepted an Elroy Chong pass and returned it 25 yards for a touchdown, and the

anticipated rout was on.

The Huskers would intercept two more passes and recover a Hawaii fumble.

The Rainbows' field goal came with 6:30 remaining in the half.

Hawaii did gain 251 yards against the Blackshirts, including 204 passing. Rainbows running back Larry Sherrer, however, was limited to 15 yards on 14 carries.

Sherrer was the first player in school history to rush for more than 1,000 yards.

Nebraska's offense was balanced. The Huskers finished with 481 yards, 233 rushing and 248 passing.

NEBRASKA 45, HAWAII 3

Dec. 4, 1971 • Honolulu, Hawaii

Nebraska	17	7	7	14	--	45
Hawaii	0	3	0	0	--	3

- (N) Rich Sanger 32 field goal
- (N) Dave Mason 25 interception return (Rich Sanger kick)
- (N) Jerry List 80 pass Jerry Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (H) Henry Sovio 29 field goal
- (N) Tagge 12 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) Johnny Rodgers 33 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)
- (N) Van Brownson 21 run (Sanger kick)
- (N) Frosty Anderson 17 pass Tagge (Sanger kick)

Attendance: 23,002

DO YOU REMEMBER?

► Estimates of from 5,000 to 8,000

Nebraska fans were on hand for the game.

► Despite the Huskers' success, Iowa

State's John Majors not Bob Devaney

was named the Big Eight "Coach of the

Year" the week before the game.

► Devaney and Huskers Larry

Jacobson and Johnny Rodgers took

a flight immediately after the game

to Miami for the taping of the Kodak

All-American television special.

► With the victory, its 23rd in a row,

Nebraska extended its unbeaten

streak to 31 games and became the

first school in NCAA history to win 12

regular-season games.

► The Huskers' travel roster for the

game included 50 players.

CROSSWORD & TRIVIA

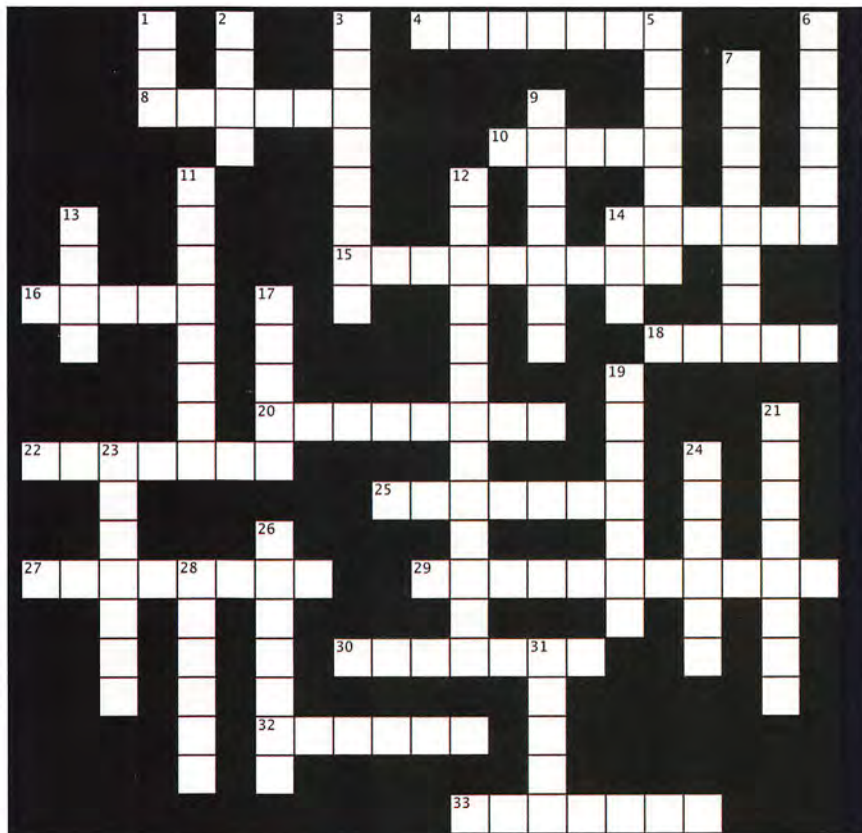
ACROSS

4. 2013 non-conference opponent
8. Wears No. 1 (offense)
10. Big 10 Co-Special Teams Player of the Week for Nov. 12 games
14. Wears No. 42 (defense)
15. First Husker selected in 2011 NFL Draft
16. Iowa school color
18. 2014 non-conference opponent
20. Wears No. 98 (defense)
22. Wears No. 1 (defense)
25. 1997 Lombardi Award winner
27. Special teams coordinator
29. Ex-Husker defensive end now with Detroit Lions
30. Iowa head coach
32. 2001 Heisman Trophy winner
33. Iowa's bowl game after 2010 season

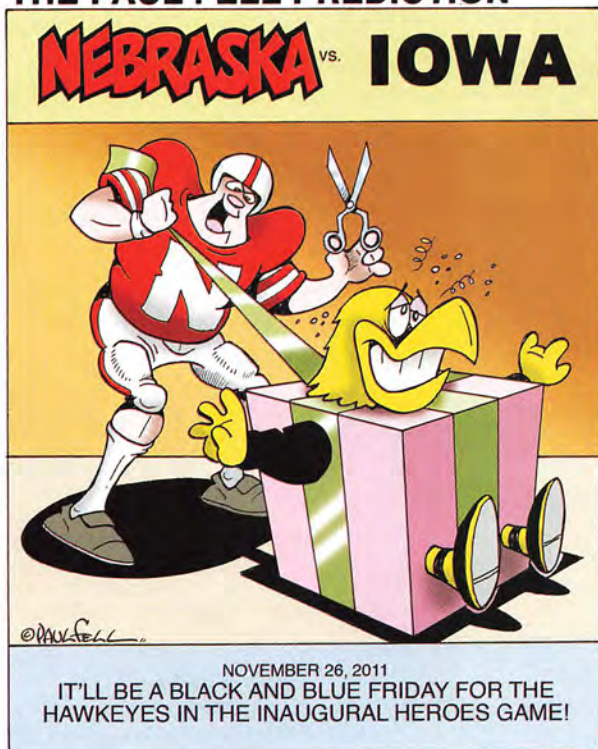
DOWN

1. Network for NU-Iowa telecast
2. Wears No. 77 (offense)
3. Named Doak Walker Award semifinalist
5. Alfonzo Dennard's home state
6. 1997 Outland Trophy winner
7. 2010 Big 12 champion
9. Ex-Husker fullback now a San Francisco 49er assistant
11. Iowa nickname
12. 2012 non-conference opponent
13. Leading receiver vs. Penn State
14. Iowa Hall of Fame coach
17. Assistant who led prayer before NU-Penn State game
19. Secondary coach
21. Iowa campus location
23. Leading tackler vs. Penn State
24. Ex-Husker center now with Detroit Lions
26. Iowa stadium name
28. Associate head coach
31. Rex Burkhead's home state

Answers will appear in the December issue.



THE PAUL FELL PREDICTION



BRAIN BUSTER

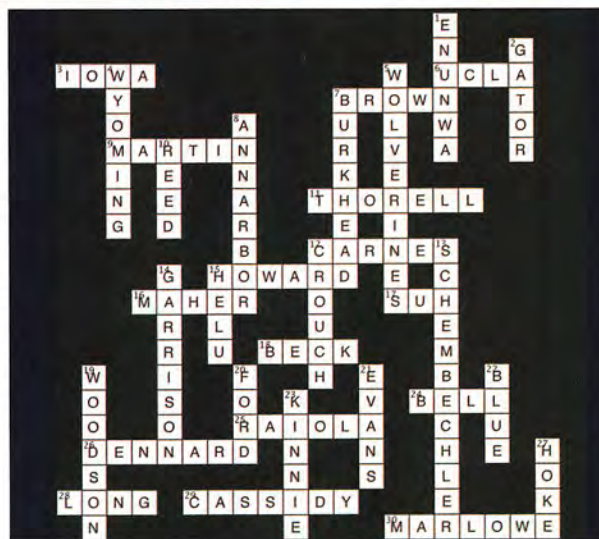
Only two Huskers have ever caught touchdown passes of 90 yards or longer, and one of the two did it twice. Can you name the two, and which of the two did it twice?

- A. Johnny Rodgers & Irving Fryar
- B. Matt Herian & Richard Bell
- C. Richard Bell & Von Sheppard
- D. Freeman White & Ross Pilkington
- E. Craig Johnson & Frantz Hardy

Answer will appear in our next issue

NOV. 12 ANSWER: B. Johnny Rodgers caught a pass in every game during his career, 37 C. Nate Swift

NOV. 12 SOLUTION



Inconsistency plagues Huskers for third time in league play

BY MIKE BABCOCK

The red-clad Husker fan riding down in the elevator at the Holiday Inn Express in Ann Arbor early Saturday morning had an East Coast accent, New Jersey maybe, an assumption reinforced by his admitting he was first and foremost a fan of the New York Jets. As such, he was a pessimist.

So despite his allegiance to Nebraska, he predicted a Michigan victory – 36-31.

Turns out his pessimism was justified. But his ability to predict a score was not. The Huskers couldn't make it nearly as close as he thought they would. And now they're left with a day-after-Thanksgiving game against designated rival Iowa, playing for pride and a better bowl position.

As it turned out, they would have needed a Northwestern upset of Michigan State to advance to the Big Ten Championship game, anyway. But there would have been a chance.

Now there is none. Michigan State will represent the Legends Division at Indianapolis on Dec. 3, even though Nebraska dominated the Spartans three weeks ago in Lincoln.

Therein lies the problem. The Huskers of Oct. 29 weren't the Huskers at Michigan Stadium. Rather, they were the Huskers of Nov. 5, when Northwestern came to town and won 28-25.

And maybe they weren't even the Huskers of Nov. 5.

"You talk about the penalties, the turnovers, I mean, all the things that we preach, all the things we've been doing well we didn't do well today," said coach Bo Pelini.

"There's your result, as simple as that."

Simple in explanation, but difficult to understand, just as it was following a 48-17 loss at Wisconsin to open Big Ten play on Oct. 1, just as it was following the Northwestern game.

The inconsistency in three losses needs to be avoided if Nebraska is to defeat Iowa and salvage a season that was expected to be better than this, that should have been better than this.

A place in the Big Ten Championship game wasn't the only thing at stake in Ann Arbor. Had the Huskers won their final two games, they might have had a chance



The inconsistency in three losses needs to be avoided if Nebraska is to defeat Iowa and salvage a season that was expected to be better than this, that should have been better than this.

at a BCS bowl if they hadn't gotten to Indianapolis and won an automatic one. The reasoning was that the title-game loser would have three losses and be less likely than a two-loss Husker team to get a BCS at-large bid.

There would have been no guarantee. But the number of BCS bowl candidates is limited, and a two-loss Nebraska team probably would have been attractive.

Pelini has talked a lot about his team's character, and now the Iowa game will provide a test, which junior wide receiver Tim Marlowe expects the Huskers to pass.

Their motivation? "We play for us. We play for our team, play for our coaches, our families, the state of Nebraska," said Marlowe. "We have a lot of pride."

With just over 6 minutes remaining, Michigan fans were chanting "Beat Ohio," a reference to the Wolverines' final regular-season game against arch-rival Ohio State.

And Michigan's final three plays were kneel-downs by back-up quarterback Devin Gardner, on a possession that followed the Wolverines' stopping Nebraska four times beginning with first-and-goal from the Michigan 8-yard line – with the Huskers' first-team offense still in the game.

Few would have expected such a finish, not with two teams so evenly matched statistically.

On the elevator ride down from the pressbox at Michigan Stadium late Saturday afternoon, two stadium workers were discussing what had occurred that day.

Writers were stressed about having to deal with a power outage that prevented their laptop and cell phone batteries from recharging (and rendered the soda machine inoperable).

One asked the other if he had seen "that happening?"

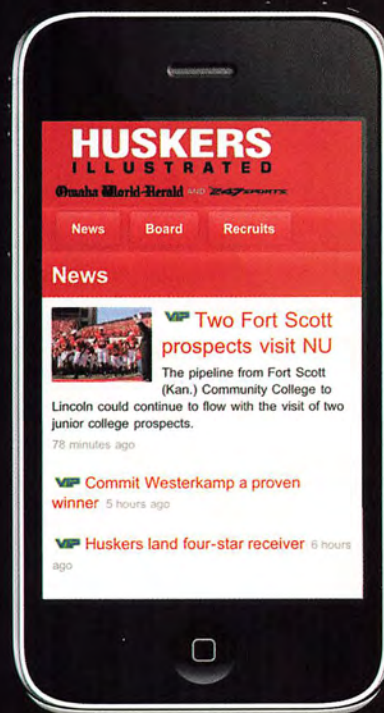
The power outage? Or Michigan's decisive victory?

"Both" was the reply. **N**

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BIG TEN, MEET BIG RED.